

# The Colored American

A NATIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER

VOL. X, NO. 5.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 10, 1902.

PRICE, FIVE CENTS.

## A KENTUCKY LEADER.

### TELLING POINTS IN CAREER OF H. P. SLAUGHTER.

Risen From *The Ranks* to Eminence in  
Church, Politics, Law, Fraternities  
—Honored Alike by Both Races and  
Confidant of Many Public Officials.

When we turn the calcium upon the career of a successful man, young or old, we offer a beacon-light that will guide the feet and strengthen the hopes of the struggling wayfarer. The story of a young man's rise is more inspiring at times than that of the sage, for the former is nearer to us; we can more clearly see the milestones he is passing, and his work, by its very proximity, seems more possible of attainment than that of him who is generations ahead. It is human nature to be most deeply affected by the things closest to us.

This is true of the magnetic influence exerted upon his fellows by Henry P. Slaughter, a young man of unusual capacity and genius for work, whose recent election as president of the Pen and Pencil Club renders him anew the cynosure of all eyes in the world of journalism. Newspaper men and leaders of thought, are like poets—born, not made. Henry P. Slaughter was born for the mission of serving and teaching by pen and mental activity, directing with both talents the highest interests of his race.

Mr. Slaughter is a native of Louisville, Ky. Left fatherless at the age of six, he faced the world "like a little man," and by selling newspapers he supported himself and became the mainstay for his mother and younger brother and sister. He worked his way through the public schools of Louisville, graduating from the High School with honors and was salutatorian of his class on commencement day. He served his apprenticeship as a printer upon the Louisville *Champion*, on which paper he afterwards became associate editor, with Horace Morris, one of the brightest men that ever wielded the tripod in this country. During this period (1890) he also wrote special articles which appeared in the local dailies, for which he was highly complimented by the city editor of the *Courier-Journal*.

In 1892 he accepted the foremanship of the office of the *Lexington Standard*, and the following year became associate editor on the staff, of which W. D. Johnson was editor-in-chief. Desirous of a new field where an opportunity for a higher education could be afforded, Mr. Slaughter in 1894 went to North Carolina, and became manager-foreman of the A. M. E. Zion Publication House—then located at Salisbury. He took a special course of study at Livingstone College, and at the same time instructed a class in the art of printing. The conspicuous service rendered the publication department of the Zion connection by Mr. Slaughter is best attested by the unreserved commendation given in the

## MEN OF THE HOUR.



HON. RICHARD T. GREENER.

The Afro-Americans' Most Conspicuous Exemplar of the Scholar in Politics, Who is Making an Unrivalled Record as Consul at Vladivostok, Russia.

valedictory of Rev. G. W. Clinton, then editor of the *Star of Zion*, now a leader on the bench of Bishops. Mr. Slaughter was heartily praised for his devotion in getting out the paper in improved form and on time, the editor confessing special obligation for excellent contributions written during his enforced absence, and for valuable aid in securing advertisements. To Mr. Slaughter, more than to any other individual, the now Bishop said, he owed the success that had come to his administration.

The campaign of '96 coming on, Mr. Slaughter felt called upon to return to Kentucky. Through all that intense "battle of standards"—gold and silver—Mr. Slaughter was in the forefront as manager of the *Lexington Standard*. His logical speeches, trenchant pen and strong hand at the helm of the *Standard* were potent factors in piloting the "blue grass ship of State" almost unruffled into the McKinley and Hobart harbor.

After the election he took an exami-

nation for compositor in the Government Printing Office, and, though the only Negro examined for this branch of the service, he was certified for appointment the day after his standing was made known to the Public Printer, and he came on to Washington at once. He made an average of 93.40 out of a possible 100. From 1896 to date he has sustained himself at the Government Printing Office with marked credit, and by efficient service, modest and unassuming manners, has won a degree of popularity with associates and superiors second to no man of any color in the establishment. He is attached to the Agricultural Division.

Mr. Slaughter, while only thirty years of age, has from boyhood taken the deepest interest in public affairs, and, by reason of willingness to work in any station where he could be useful, has been brought into pleasant contact with the most prominent men of both races—

[Continued on fourth page.]

## PEN AND PENCIL CLUB.

### RESULT OF THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A Ticket Chosen That Will Carry  
This Popular Organization to  
Heights Designed by Its Founders  
Plans of *The Literary Bureau*.

The Pen and Pencil Club had a big meeting Thursday evening of last week. It was the annual election night, and as a result of much caucussing for some weeks back, interest in the outcome ran to fever heat. The only serious contest hedged about the presidency. Since the announcement of President L. M. Hershaw that he would not stand for reelection, the leading forces have been casting about for a suitable successor. Name after name was canvassed and put aside either because of the declination of individuals to run or to lack of availability. The mantle of favor finally fell upon Mr. Henry P. Slaughter, and he was elected with a "hurrah," without organized objection, for although several friends of Mr. Robert Pelham, Jr., insisted upon giving him a complimentary vote, he was committed to the candidacy of Mr. Slaughter, and placed that popular young man in nomination in one of the best speeches of the evening. Mr. Slaughter's election was made unanimous by motion of Messrs. W. L. Pollard and F. D. McCracken, who "fathered" the Pelham boom, and to which they made an heroic effort to "stampede" the convention. Mr. Slaughter was pre-eminently the choice of the majority, and that his administration will be a glittering success all agree.

Other officers were elected as follows—some by unanimous vote, others winning out after brief but spirited skirmishes:

First Vice-President—Daniel A. Murray.

Second Vice-President—W. L. Pollard.

Recording Secretary—Arthur L. Gray.

Corresponding Secretary—Robert Pelham, Jr.

Treasurer—James A. Cobb.

Governing Board—President and Recording Secretary ex-officio; W. L. Houston, S. E. Lacy, F. G. Manly and John H. Wills.

Literary Bureau—Robert Pelham, Jr., chairman; R. W. Thompson, W. L. Board, A. U. Craig and W. T. Menard.

This last bureau is an idea put forward and developed by Messrs. Pelham and Thompson, and its object is to crystallize and organize into a working body the corps of Washington correspondents, whose duty it shall be to supply to the press of the country facts, statistics and other data looking to the advancement of the race along political, educational, industrial and business

[Continued on fourth page.]